

Arkansas



The potential to grow and make innovative products in rural America is limitless. Since 2009, the Obama Administration has made targeted investments to help rural businesses grow. Through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's projects in affordable housing, energy efficiency, roads and bridges, and internet access, coupled with loans and grants for rural businesses, the Administration has helped to attract and retain a talented rural labor force, improve connectivity and access to information, move products to market, and make rural communities competitive—**ultimately supporting strong local economies and expanded opportunity for rural Arkansans.**

MADE IN RURAL ARKANSAS

With the support of a USDA grant, Gammill Farms Partnership in Tyronza, Arkansas, manufactures fertilizer using waste biomass from their corn and grain operation and biofuel waste from a nearby biorefinery. The components would have normally ended up in the landfill, and are now being used to produce useful agricultural products.



SUPPORT FOR RURAL BUSINESSES

USDA has made investments to help **178 rural businesses in Arkansas thrive and grow.**

USDA investments in everything from advanced biofuels manufacturing facilities to food hubs help businesses, many of them small, capitalize on emerging markets for rural-made products. **In rural America, small businesses support one in three jobs.**



RENEWING RURAL MANUFACTURING

The rural economy includes more than products that come from farms.

Rural manufacturing supports 76,642 jobs in Arkansas. USDA has invested **\$16 million** to help rural manufacturers in **Arkansas** increase production and capacity.



GROWING EXPORTS

In 2012, exports of farm and ranch products alone contributed **\$3.9 billion** to **Arkansas'** economy. The

President's Made In Rural America initiative helps rural businesses capitalize on demand for American-made products and identify ways they can participate in global markets.



HOUSING

Access to safe, affordable housing is critical to maintaining the rural labor force. USDA has helped **27,095 Arkansas families** purchase or repair homes.



CONNECTIVITY

USDA has invested **\$122.9** to support new and improved broadband service for rural **Arkansans.** Broadband service

helps to expand access to state-of-the-art health care, educational, and cultural resources and helps rural businesses compete in the global economy.



WATER

USDA has invested **\$248.5 million** to support efficient water supply, treatment and storage facilities, and

wastewater treatment systems. That investment has **improved the health of thousands of rural Arkansans** who now have access to clean water and reliable sanitation.